



# New Myrnam School

*Striving for Excellence*

5105 - 50 Street Box 160 Myrnam, AB T0B 3K0 Phone: (780) 366-3801 Cell: (780) 646-3800



## MYRNAM OUTREACH & HOMESCHOOL CENTRE

### PROMOTING CHOICE IN EDUCATION

Box 160 Myrnam, Alberta T0B 3K0 Phone: 780-366-3801 Fax: 780-366-2332

## December

### Important Dates

#### December

- 7-15 - Hanukkah
- 8 - PLC Day (No School)
- 20 - Christmas concert @ 7:00 pm
- 21 - German Christmas concert @ 7:00 pm
- 21 - First Day of Winter
- December 22 - January 7 - Christmas Break

#### January

- 6 - Heilige Drei König (Epiphany)
- 7 - First Day Back from Winter Break
- Last Day of Classes for Senior High

30 - Adulting Day

31 - Semester 2 Begins!



### Stay up to date

with information:

Website:

[www.newmyrnamschool.ca](http://www.newmyrnamschool.ca)

 Facebook:

New Myrnam School SPERD

 Instagram:

[newmyrnam](https://www.instagram.com/newmyrnam)



# Principal's Message



Merry Christmas! December is a busy month full of giving and caring for each other. One way our school family does this is through Christmas hamper donations. The school is collecting non-perishable food items until December 7. Families are encouraged to donate what they can if they can to support those in our community in need. We will also be hosting our annual pierogi Christmas dinner on December 22. The Foods 20/30 class is helping to organize and cook the meal this year. Parents are welcome to jump into the kitchen that day too. If you would like to help out, please let the school know.

There are two other events the school will invite our families to in December. Join us for our legendary elementary Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. Kindergarten to grade 6 students are practicing their lines and lyrics getting ready to perform for the community. Thank you so much to Mrs. Godziuk for being the director of our concert once again. It is a lot of work coordinating practices, pulling together sets, costumes, and musical numbers.

Ms. Susie Hildebrandt is again organizing the fabulous German Christmas concert on Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. This event is open to the public. Please come and enjoy the evening of music, food, and celebrating the reason for the season. Thank you, Ms. Hildebrandt, for your efforts to create this engaging evening each year.

November 22 was the school's annual awards night. We recognized the hard work and dedication of our grade 7-12 students. As I reflect on the remarkable evening, I am overwhelmed with pride for the dedication displayed by our students. The ceremony was not just a celebration of academic achievement but a testament to the countless sacrifices our students make daily to ensure their academic success. Each award bestowed upon them is a symbol of their tireless commitment, late nights of study, and the personal sacrifice they willingly make to pursue excellence. Our students understand the value of hard work and resilience, and I look forward to witnessing their continued success and growth. You can find pictures of each award recipient on the TV slide show in the front foyer of the school. I am compelled to express profound gratitude not only to our outstanding students but also to our invaluable sponsors who have played an instrumental role in fostering academic excellence within our school. I extend my deepest thanks to our sponsors for their generous support.

Christmas break runs from December 25 - January 8. I wish you and your loved ones a joyous Christmas filled with warmth, laughter, and cherished moments. May this festive season bring you peace, happiness, and an abundance of love surrounded by family and friends. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Merry Christmas

## Concession Menu

- Grilled Cheese (with Vegetables or Pickle) \$2.50  
Crackers, Cheese, Sausage and Pickle Plate \$3.00  
Mini Sub (Pizza or Hoagie) \$3.50  
Pizza Pop \$1.00  
Taco in a Bag \$6.00  
Mr. Noodle (Chicken/Beef/Spicy) \$2.00  
Hot and Spicy Noodle Bowl \$3.00  
Boiled Egg \$0.50  
Water \$2.00  
Juice Box \$1.00  
Gatorade/Powerade \$2.50  
Iced Tea \$2.50  
Sparkling Ice Drink \$2.50  
Italian Ice \$2.00  
Veggie Straws \$1.00  
White Cheddar Popcorn \$2.00  
Assorted Trail Mix \$2.00  
Almonds \$2.00  
Breadsticks & Nutella \$2.00  
Ritz \$1.00  
Made Good Cookies \$0.75  
Twizzlers \$3.00  
Corn Nuts \$2.00  
Gum \$1.00

Merry Christmas

# Announcements



Now that the winter weather is upon us, it's time to remember to dress warmly for recess and for the ride into school on the bus. Dress in a jacket, snow pants, a toque, gloves or mittens, and boots to stay nice and warm.



## Cooking Club!

Starting January 9, 2024, grade 4-6 students will be able to join the cooking club after school. It will run from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays from January 9 - January 30.



To sign up, please fill out the registration form at this link or with the QR Code  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMVMCagslahBxkPY--Yb6oKrXk491k3\\_JIBLn4Gp5E9fX7JQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMVMCagslahBxkPY--Yb6oKrXk491k3_JIBLn4Gp5E9fX7JQ/viewform)

## Career Counsellor Dates

December - 5, 15, 22





# Fall Festival











# Remembrance Day



*In Flanders Fields*

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high;  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields

*"Punch"  
Dec 8, 1915*

*John McCrae*



**Lest We Forget**

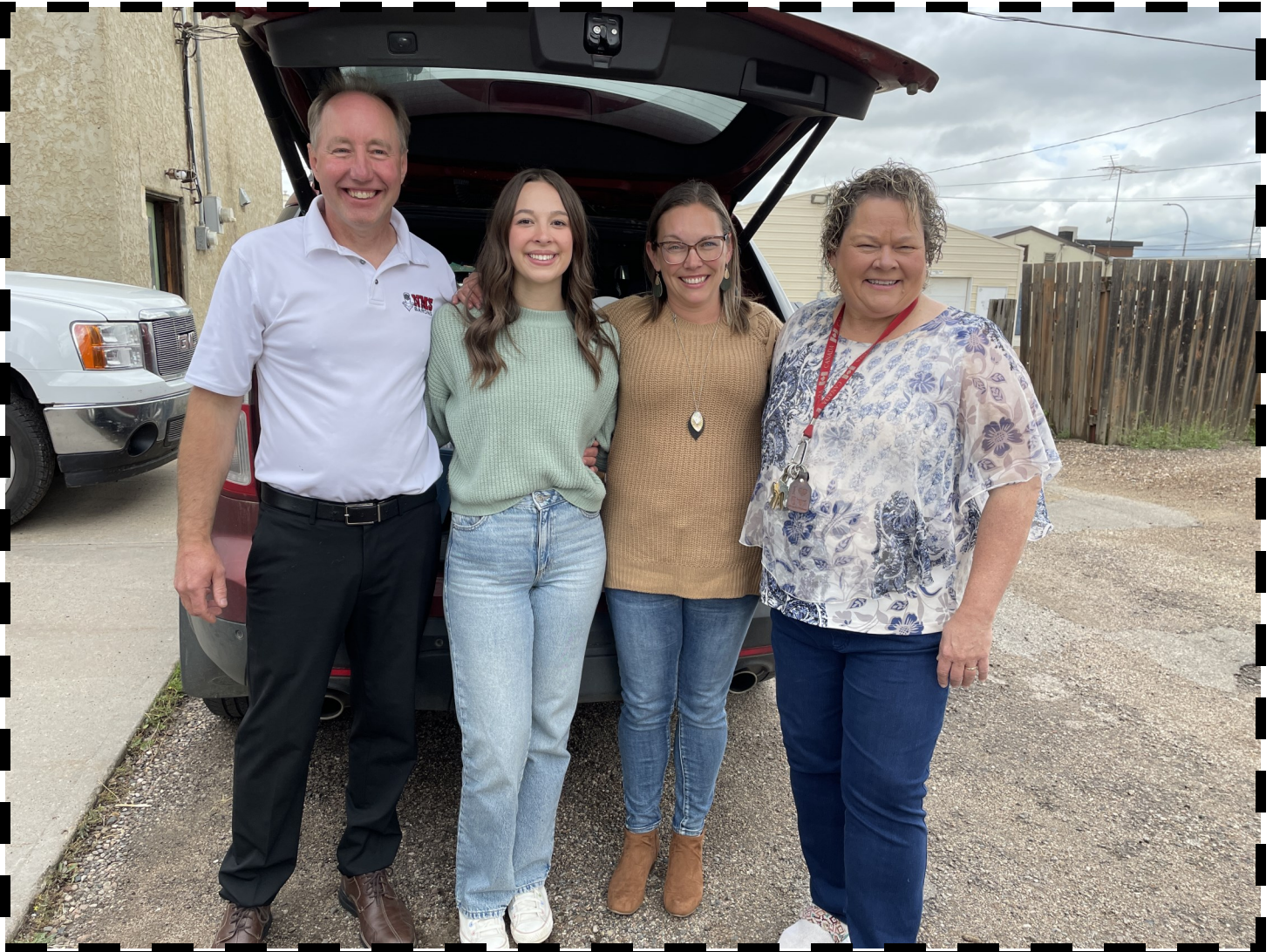




# Fun and Learning in NMS







**Thank you to Honourable Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk for her generous donation of cosmetology supplies to our CTS programming at New Myrnam School. Mrs. Armstrong-Homeniuk contacted the school in August and a car load of supplies was picked up from her salon in Vegreville. Thank you for your donation!**

# Basketball Practices

**Jr Boys are on Mondays**

**Jr Girls are on Wednesdays**

**Skills and scrimmage for both boys and girls are on Thursdays**

**Catherine MacKenzie donated a generous amount of food for a food drive in the near future.**

**Thank you to Viola and Catherine MacKenzie for their generous food donation.**



## Diploma/Exam Schedule

Grade 12 diploma exams are scheduled for NMS students in January 2024. Diploma exams are required to be written by grade 12 students and are written in person at the school. More information can be found in the following QR Codes



Jan. 10	ELA 30-1 & ELA 30-2 Part A @ 9:00 am
Jan. 22	Math 30-1 & Math 30-2 @ 9:00 am
Jan. 23	ELA 30-1 & ELA 30-2 Part B @ 9:00 am
Jan. 26	Chemistry 30 @ 9:00 am



## Diploma/Exam Schedule

Grade 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT's) are scheduled for May and June 2024. PAT's are required to be written by grade 6 and 9 students and are written in person at the school. There is more information from Alberta Education about the grade 6 and grade 9 PAT's in the QR Codes. Exam dates are provided for each grade below.



Grade 6  
QR Code



Grade 9  
QR Code

Grade 6	
May 15	ELA & Literature Part A
June 12	ELA & Literature Part B
June 13	Math Part A
June 19	Social Studies
June 20	Math Part B
Grade 9	
May 13	ELA & Literature Part A
June 12	ELA & Literature Part B
June 13	Math Part A
June 18	Math Part B
June 19	Social Studies
June 20	Science



# Links Page

Watch here for great links to our projects!

## New Myrnam School Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/newmyrnamschoolsperd?fref=nf>

## Power School

<https://powerschool.sperd.ca/public/home.html>

## Our Project Videos/Articles

<https://www.newmyrnamschool.ca/project-s-videos>

## School Cash Online

<https://sperd.schoolcashonline.com/>



# Christmas Activities

**Dec 18 - PJ Day & Hot Chocolate**

**Dec 19 - Wear an Ugly Christmas  
Sweater**

**Dec 20 - Wear Red or Green**

**Dec 21 - Wear Cozy Socks or Slippers**

**Dec 22 - Christmas BINGO, Christmas  
Movie @ 1:00**



# Community Movie Night

## December 8th @ 7:00

**Will Ferrell**



**elf**

Doors open @ 6:00  
A cash concession will be available





# EXTREME WEATHER

## Is my child's bus running? Coming home early?

Throughout the winter, weather and road conditions are constantly monitored with the safety of students and staff at the center of all of our decisions. We strive to inform parents of any delays or cancellations as quickly as possible. Here's how you may be notified:

- Bus driver contact
- Call/text from your school
- Local radio stations
- Bus Status app
- Division social media (Facebook and Instagram)
- Division website  
<https://www.stpauleducation.ab.ca/transportation/bus-status>



### How we decide:

When temperatures and/or wind chill is -40 or colder, buses are CANCELLED. Notice may be given the night before or in the morning.

-40°C



Buses may run in the afternoon during extreme cold weather under certain circumstances.



Weather checks start very early with The Weather Network and phone calls to designated staff living in each local area.

Even if buses are cancelled schools remain **OPEN**.

- If your child attends: meaningful learning still occurs
- If your child is absent: efforts will be made to ensure they do not fall behind



Decision is based on:

- Local road conditions
- RCMP travel advisories
- Weather and wind warnings
- Local municipality

Your bus driver also has complete discretion to cancel a route should they feel travel is unsafe.



If a decision is required around temperature and/or road conditions, the Director of Transportation consults with:

- Local bus drivers
- School principals
- Superintendent of Schools



Parents always have the final say about their child's safety and well-being and can always choose whether or not to have their child take the bus.



*The Nations of Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake and Frog Lake make independent decisions about their buses. Please contact them directly for any questions regarding their transportation policies.*



# HOW SICK IS TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



## SEND TO SCHOOL

- A runny nose or just a little cough but no other symptoms.
- Sore throat but no other symptoms.
- No fever in the past 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine.
- No vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.



## KEEP AT HOME

- Fever higher than 100.4 degrees F (38 degrees C).
- Sore throat, with other symptoms such as a persistent cough.
- Vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours.
- Eyes are pink and crusty.
- Has been exposed to an illness where isolation is recommended.





# SchoolMessenger Mass Notifications System Information for Parents

## What is SchoolMessenger?

SchoolMessenger is a mass notification system used to deliver information to families. These mass notifications are referred to as 'Broadcasts' due to SchoolMessenger's capability to simultaneously send messages to a vast number of destinations. Available broadcast destinations include phone, email, and SMS text.

Message recipients' contact data for parents comes from the PowerSchool Student Information System (SIS) database. This data is updated every evening so that any changes to phone numbers, emails and contact preferences will be current on every broadcast.

During phase one of implementation, the Division will begin using SchoolMessenger to communicate information to parents and guardians about safety alerts and school closures. Schools may also use this tool to share newsletters and information about special events and activities. Phase two, which includes activating the attendance reporting feature 'Safe Arrival', is expected to begin in early 2024.

### Phone Messages



- Phone calls will be reserved for emergencies such as safety alerts or early dismissal due to inclement weather.
- Phone calls will be sent as an automated message (computerized or human voice) and will come from the school phone number.
- In addition to a phone call, text and email messages will also be sent in emergency situations.

### Email Messages



- School newsletters and information about fundraising, hot lunch programs and other school activities will be shared via email.

### Text Messages



- In addition to being used for emergencies, your school may also use text messages to communicate important information regarding sports and other after-school activities, field trip delays, etc.
- Under federal law originally designed to protect consumers from telemarketers, we have to get your permission to send messages to a mobile phone by SMS text. It is also just a good idea so that we're sure that message is going to the right phone number for the right person. Therefore, to receive texts you will need to opt-in.
- On **October 18, 2023** an opt-in invitation text to participate in this free service\* will be sent to mobile phone numbers of all primary contacts uploaded from our Student Information System (SIS). Recipients have to reply 'Y' or 'Yes' to the invitation text message to 'opt-in'.

## Additional Information

- Existing school-to-home communication tools currently used by classroom teachers (e.g. Seesaw, ClassDojo) may still be utilized.
- Schools will have flexibility in how they use SchoolMessenger. Stay tuned to your schools website and social media to learn more about how this new tool will be used at your child's school.
- All messages can also be viewed on the SchoolMessenger app. Parents are not required to download the app at this time, however, the Division will be asking all families to download the app when we move forward with the SchoolMessenger attendance reporting feature 'Safe Arrival'.
- Parents have the option to request that additional contacts, such as a child care provider, receive text and email messages from their child's school. Please call the school to make this request or if you have any questions about SchoolMessenger.



- If you did not receive the invitation text message or want to ensure you are registered, you can simply send a text message as follows:

**To Opt-In: Text 'Y' or 'Yes' to our short code number (978338)**

*\*Standard Message and Data rates apply*

- You can also opt out of these messages any time by simply replying to one of our messages with '**Stop**'.



# BUS STATUS

A product of  rally



St. Paul Education is pleased to offer a new bus notification system commencing in the 2023-24 school year!

**Download the Bus Status 4 App and choose your preferences to stay updated.**



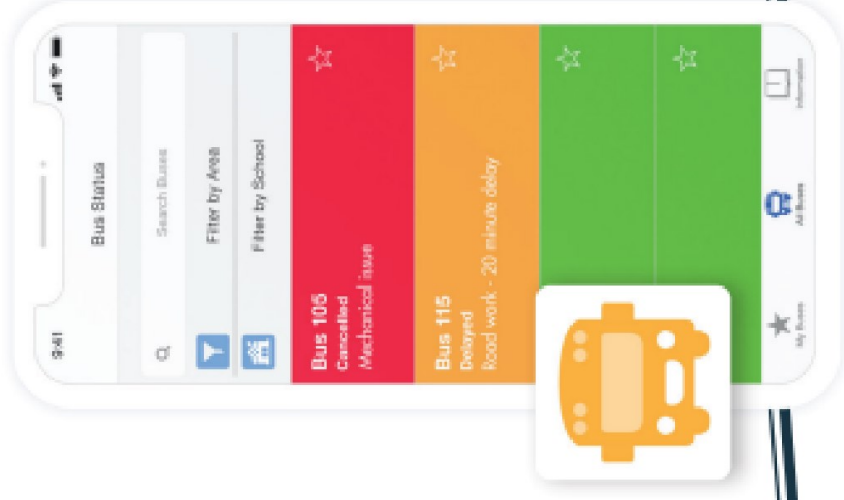
ios (Apple)



Android

Access the full instructional document at <https://bit.ly/47Aakkg>.

***Please note that the Bus Status App is replacing the Alertus App used in the past.***



# St. Paul Education Learning Calendar 2023-2024

August 2023							September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F		
1	2	3	4				7	8	9	10	11			2	3	4	5	6			6	7	8	9	10		
14	15	16	17	18			4	5	6	7	8			9	10	11	12	13			13	14	15	16	17		
21	22	23	24	25			11	12	13	14	15			16	17	18	19	20			20	21	22	23	24		
28	29	30	31				18	19	20	21	22			23	24	25	26	27			27	28	29	30			
							25	26	27	28	29			30	31												

December 2023							January 2024							February 2024							March 2024						
M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F		
4	5	6	7	8			1	2	3	4	5			5	6	7	8	9			4	5	6	7	8		
11	12	13	14	15			8	9	10	11	12			12	13	14	15	16			11	12	13	14	15		
18	19	20	21	22			15	16	17	18	19			19	20	21	22	23			18	19	20	21	22		
25	26	27	28	29			22	23	24	25	26			26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29		

April 2024							May 2024							June 2024						
M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F			M	T	W	T	F		
1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9	10			3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12			13	14	15	16	17			10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19			20	21	22	23	24			17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26			27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28		

LEGEND						
Instructional Day						
PLC Day						
Schools Closed						
Early Dismissal 2 pm						

Days of School Operation		
Instructional	Staff Only	
August	0	3
September	19	1
October	20	1
November	19	1
December	15	1
January	17	0
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>7</b>
January	1	0
February	17	3
March	15	1
April	20	1
May	20	1
June	17	2
<b>Semester 2</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>8</b>

<b>Total Instructional Days</b>	180
<b>Total Non-Instructional Days</b>	15
<b>Total Operational Days</b>	195

<b>First Day of Classes:</b>	September 5
<b>First Day of Second Semester:</b>	January 31
<b>Last Day of Classes:</b>	June 26

Instructional Hours			
Days	Min./Day	Hr./Year	
Elem./Jr High	180	317	950
High School	180	333	1000

Important Dates		
August 29, 30, 31	PLC Days	
August 31 (a.m.)	Catholic Education Formation	
September 1	PLC Day/Division Day	
September 4	Labour Day	
<b>September 5</b>	<b>First day of school</b>	
September 30	Truth & Reconciliation Day	
October 6	PLC Day	
October 9	Thanksgiving	
November 9	PLC Day	
November 10	Schools Closed	
November 13	Remembrance Day (Nov 11)	
December 8	PLC Day	
Dec 25 - Jan 5	Christmas Break	
<b>January 31</b>	<b>First day of second semester</b>	
February 2	PLC Day	
February 2 (a.m.)	Catholic Education Formation	
February 14	Early dismissal - 2 pm	
February 15 & 16	Teachers' Convention	
February 19	Family Day	
March 1	PLC Day	
March 25 - 29	Spring Break	
March 29	Good Friday	
April 1	Easter Monday	
April 19	PLC Day	
May 16	PLC Day	
May 17	Schools Closed	
May 20	Victoria Day	
June 14	PLC Day	
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day	
<b>June 26</b>	<b>Last day of classes</b>	
June 27	PLC Day	

Calendar Approved: February 8, 2023

Professional Learning Community - PLC days provide opportunities for staff to work together on topics such as: school opening and closing, professional learning, sharing best practices, assessment, and supports for students.

Catholic Education Formation (CEF) - August 31 and February 2, mornings

Diploma Exam Schedule 2023-24 - October 26, 27, 30, 31 November 2, 3, 6-8 January 10-12, 19, 22-26, 29, 30 April 4, 5, 8-12, 15, 16 June 11-14, 17-20, 24-26

Provincial Achievement Test Schedule 2023-2024 - In draft format as per Alberta Education

Approved School Holidays			
Labour Day	Sept 4	Family Day	Feb 19
Thanksgiving Day	Oct 9	Spring Break	March 25-29
Remembrance Day	Nov 13	Good Friday/Easter Monday	Mar 29 & Apr 1
Christmas Vacation	Dec 25-Jan 5	Victoria Day	May 20



# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Day 5 (K Day)	2
3	4 Day 6	5 Day 1 (K Day)	6 Day 2	7 Last Day of Food Drive Day 3 (K Day)	8 Community Movie Night @7:00 Doors Open @8:00 PLC Day (No School)	9
10	11 Day 4	12 Day 5 (K Day)	13 Day 6	14 Day 1 (K Day)	15 Day 2	16
17	18 Day 3 (K Day)	19 Day 4	20 Day 5 (K Day)	21 Day 6	22 Day 1 (K Day)	23
Christmas Fun Activities (Schedule in Newsletter)						
			Christmas Concert @ 7:00 pm Day 5 (K Day)	German Christmas Concert @ 7:00 pm Day 6	Day 1 (K Day)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Winter Break! See you January 8th!					

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Winter Break! See you January 8th!</b>						
7	8 Day 2	9 Day 3 (K Day)	10 Day 4	11 Day 5 (K Day)	12 Day 6 Community Movie Night @ 7:00	13
14	15 Day 1 (K Day)	16 Day 2	17 Day 3 (K Day)	18 Day 4	19 Day 5 (K Day)	20
21	22 Day 6	23 Day 1 (K Day)	24 Day 2	25 Day 3 (K Day)	26 Day 4	27
28	29 Day 5 (K Day)	30 Adulthood Day	31 Semester 2 Begins Day 1 (K Day)	